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October 29, 2004

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Michael K. Powell, Chairman
The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Commissioner
The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner
The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 04-242 and CC Docket No. 01-338

Ex Parte Filing (Via Hand Delivery)

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners:

We are writing to express our gratitude and thanks for your leadership role in promoting beneficial policies that will promote the widespread deployment and rapid adoption of fiber-based broadband technologies across urban and rural areas. Your recent decision to not subject telcos to unbundling requirements and obligations of new broadband facilities under Section 271 will help ensure the continuous deployment of fiber networks connecting homes and businesses.

These pro-active measures will benefit not only broadband service providers and equipment manufacturers, but also the many small and medium sized businesses that serve as suppliers and sub-contractors to these companies. We are equipment manufacturers, engineers, consultants and construction firms that are laying fiber to build the physical fiber network infrastructure. Our businesses and commercial relationships are the foundations of our communities and the real engine that drives economic growth. At a time when every state is fighting for new jobs and new investments, our respective state communities, neighbors and all Americans can now enjoy the benefits of broadband technologies.

With innovation in technology advancing at such a rapid pace, these newly ordered FCC broadband policies will encourage rapid construction of new facilities and provisioning of broadband-based applications and services as quickly as possible. Innovative, "wiz-bang" Internet and internet-based applications and services are revolutionizing communications, healthcare, education and the flow of information for people worldwide. Due to the fact that timely access to electronic data and information drives economic development, these favorable policies will re-establish America's leadership role in information technology and communications expertise. To that end, innovative broadband service providers have committed and will continue to allocate capital resources to broadband deployments. These commitments could create thousands of jobs

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nationwide in the telecommunications and information technology industries, and enable individuals all across our nation to tap into the world's greatest source of information.

We applaud the efforts your Commission have made in directing public attention on the need to deploy broadband facilities on a wide scale basis. We greatly appreciate your insightful direction and positive actions to ensure the deployment of fiber-based broadband networks so that communities, states, households and businesses will not be left behind whereby all Americans can adopt and utilize enabling broadband technologies.

Sincerely,



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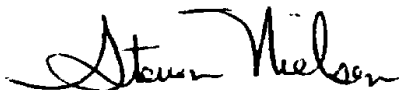
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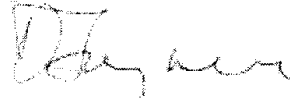
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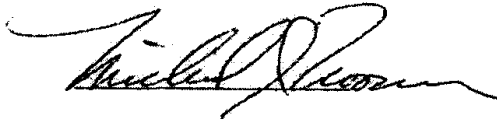
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